

In Memory of
U.S. Marine Corps Sergeant
Dirk Robert Abbas
Britton, South Dakota
Marshall County

October 20, 1932 – October 6, 1952
Died of Wounds in Korea



Dirk Robert Abbas was born October 20, 1932, in Aberdeen, South Dakota, to John and Frances (Thiery) Abbas. Dirk had two sisters, Nancy and Mae. Dirk received his grade school and high school education in Britton, South Dakota. He was very active in school, participating in football and the school paper. He graduated from Britton High School in the spring of 1950 and worked at the *Britton Journal* for about one year after graduating.

U.S. Marine Corps Sergeant Dirk Robert Abbas volunteered for service on February 14, 1951. He had boot training Camp Pendleton, California. In June 1951 he volunteered for submarine duty and trained on the *U.S.S. Perch* until November when he returned home for Christmas. After the holidays he was placed on the 21st Replacement draft and became a member of the Reconnaissance Company, Headquarters Battalion, 1st Marine Division. He left for Korea on June 17, and arrived on July 5, 1952.

U.S. Marine Corps Sergeant Dirk Robert Abbas died with honor for our country. On October 6, 1952, Sergeant Abbas was on night patrol duty with the recon unit, and died of multiple fragmentation wounds. Sergeant Abbas was awarded the Purple Heart, the Korean Service Medal, the United Nations Service Medal, and the National Defense Service Medal.

The body of Sergeant Dirk Robert Abbas was returned to the United States on December 5, 1952, and buried with military honors at the Britton Cemetery. He is currently survived by his mother, Frances Kurth, and his sister, Nancy Vold. His sister, Mae, passed away on February 5, 1945.

We will remember the service and sacrifice of U.S. Marine Corps Sergeant Dirk Robert Abbas.

This entry was respectfully submitted by Rebecca Sachau & Kelsey Bosworth, 8th Grade, Spearfish Middle School, Spearfish, South Dakota, May 17, 2004. Information for this entry was provided by Frances Emma Kurth, mother of Sgt. Abbas, Britton, SD, the *Britton Journal*, the ABMC, and an application for a SD veteran's bonus. Profile approved by Frances Kurth.